

09/975,219

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 remain in the application for consideration of the Examiner with Claims 14-20 standing withdrawn from consideration.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-3, 6-9, 12, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Drussel; Claims 4 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Drussel in view of Hashish; and Claims 5 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Drussel in view of Romanini.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Drussel does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the method step of cutting the integrated circuit to be singulated package with a water jet in independent Claim 1, pressurizing the water jets such that the water jet is operable to cut the integrated circuit package to be singulated in independent Claim 8.

The Examiner alleges that Drussel discloses a Figure 5 cutting integrated circuit packages.

However, Drussel discloses at column 8, line 61 that Figure 5 discloses a stack of circuit board substrate assemblies.

These are not integrated circuit packages to be singulated.

Hashish does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including cutting the integrated circuit package to be singulated with a water jet as defined in the various forms in independent Claims 1, 8, and 14.

Hashish discloses a method and apparatus for producing a coherent stream of high velocity abrasive in liquid.

Likewise, Romanini does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the method step of cutting the integrated circuit package to be singulated with a water jet as defined in the various forms in independent Claims 1 and 8.

Romanini discloses a cutting apparatus for cutting using a pressurized jet of fluid from a high pressurized fluid source.

Again, this does not disclose the above mentioned subject matter.

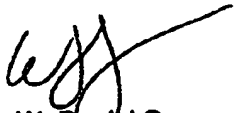
It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-13 patentably define over the applied art.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



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